

## HARPS ARE COSTLY.

And So Are Their Fancy Covers and Curious Looking Trunks.

Every harp should have a cover for its protection from dust and dampness, and these covers are made sometimes of canvas or waterproof stuff, but usually, for home use, of cotton flannel, of felt or of corduroy. These covers are not simply loose bags to cover the harp, but in each case tailor made to fit the individual harp. Such harp covers cost from \$2.50 to \$10 each. Costlier harp covers are made of silk of any desired color to harmonize with a room or its fittings and cost perhaps \$35 or \$40.

New harps of American make, which are said to be the best in the world, cost from \$500 to \$2,000, while second-hand harps may be bought at \$125 and upward.

Most new harps are shipped by the makers in wooden cases which are made to fit. The most costly harps are now shipped in harp trunks. In each case made for them.

Harp owners who do not own a trunk may have one made to order so that the trunk shall fit the harp. Harps weigh fifty to seventy-five pounds each. A harp trunk weighs about 150 pounds and costs \$50. The harp is placed within this trunk in its cover, and the trunk is so padded within as to hold the harp securely. There are made many odd looking trunks for various special uses, but a harp trunk is about as curious looking a contraption as any of them.—New York Sun.

## SHRINES IN JAPAN.

Those Within the Guarded Gates of Amakusa Temple.

"Amakusa temple is dedicated to the goddess Kwannon, a tiny image of gold about two and a half inches high," writes a traveler in Japan. "At the entrance to the temple grounds on either side of the immense gate stand two large and fearful looking figures, guarding the sacred precincts. Hanging outside the wire grating are a number of sandals for their use if they wish to take a walk, and rice is sprinkled about. Each worshiper before entering the temple calls at a small building and, after contributing a small amount, washes his hands and rinses his mouth.

"In front of the main shrine is a large aperture in the floor covered with lattice work, into which the worshiper casts his gift. After clapping his hands to awaken or attract the attention of the god he kneels, but his prayer is only brief. While there is one chief shrine there are many others under the same roof.

"One shrine especially attracted my attention. It was made of wood and quite disfigured and worn through the constant rubbing of hands on the spot corresponding to the afflicted portions of the sufferers' bodies."—Chicago News.

## Horsehoes in Turkey.

In many parts of Turkey horsehoes are simply a flat plate of iron with a hole in the middle. An extraordinary method still obtains in portions of the Ottoman empire of shoeing the horse.

The farrier doubles a long rope and knots a loop at the end to about the size of a large horse collar. This is put over the horse's head after the manner of a horse collar, and the knot rests on the horse's chest. The next step is to bring the two ends of the rope between the animal's legs. Each rope then, taken by a man, is hitched on the fetlocks of the horse's legs and brought through the loop in front. Then by a hard, steady pull the hind legs are drawn up to the forelegs, and the horse falls heavily on its side. All four feet are now tied to either by the fetlocks, the horse is propped up on his back, and the farrier sits quietly down beside him, takes off the old shoes and puts on the new.—New York Herald.

## What It Really Was.

The district inspector was visiting the school, and as this was an important event the pupils had been instructed to memorize a verse or two to recite for the entertainment of the visitor.

During the delivery of his verse one small boy was especially noticeable for the action with which he accompanied his lines, so noticeable that the teacher complimented him upon the ease with which he spoke and the practice which he must have devoted to the piece.

"It was fine, Johnnie," she exclaimed in closing, "and shows a large amount of rehearsal. But how did you learn the gestures?"

"Tain't gestures," replied the young genius, with a twist; "it's the hives."—Ladies' Home Journal.

## Alike, but Different.

The teacher had the letters cast on the blackboard and was trying to teach little Pansy Peavish to pronounce the word, but Pansy couldn't come it. "Think," said the teacher. "What is it that has some whakers and comes up on the porch late at night when it is cold and begs to come into the house?" "Oh, I know!" exclaimed little Pansy, a great light dawning. "It's papa!"—Galveston News.

## The Trial Heat.

Ethel (engaged a week).—George and I have never had a quarrel. Maud.—Oh, I think you ought to have one before you are married. Otherwise you can't be quite sure whether you are going to have your own way or not!—Exchange.

## An Offset.

"You lost money on your charity bazaar, didn't you?"

"Yes; but did you ever see such lovely costumes?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.



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## A REAL MAGIC CAP.

Curious Experience of a German Organist in St. Petersburg.

Not very long ago a German organist who went to St. Petersburg to live had there an experience with a new cap that for a time almost made him believe in the magic of the Teutonic fairy tales.

The organist bought the cap during his first day at the Russian capital and wore it the next day when he went out for a walk. On his return to his lodgings he was amazed to find two gold purses in his pocket, one of which contained a sum equivalent to \$50.

The next day, after his usual walk, he found four purses in his outside pocket, a find that caused him to doubt his senses. A third day, with a similar profitable result, sent him to the chief of police to tell his story.

The authorities detailed a detective to go with the German to the tailor who made the cap. Investigation disclosed the fact that it had been constructed of an odd piece of English cloth brought in by a stranger. From it the tailor had made fifteen identical caps to order. Having a bit left, he had constructed a sixteenth cap, which was the one sold to the organist.

The detective then followed the organist through the streets of the city, when the mystery was solved. The cap, it appears, was the emblem of a gang of pickpockets working co-operatively. The one who secured a purse dropped it into the pocket of the first confederate he saw. The cap had identified the German, and he had reaped the reward.

With this clue it was an easy matter for the Russian authorities to catch the whole gang.—Youth's Companion.

## LOUIS NAPOLEON'S ESCAPE.

Disguised as a Workman He Fooled the Ham Fortress Guard.

From the researches made by M. Thirria come some interesting details of the escape of Louis Napoleon from the fortress of Ham, in northern France, on May 25, 1846.

It seems that the sole credit for the escape must lie with Louis Napoleon himself. He made his valet, Thellin, buy a black wig, some rouge, a cap which was scrubbed with pumice stone and a pair of sabots. Then he cut off his mustache, put on a blue apron, a blue pair of trousers and a close fitting shirt of coarse stuff.

Some workmen were carrying out some repairs to that part of the fortress where the prince lodged, and this gave color to his disguise, so much so that the two watchmen entertained no suspicions regarding the man who walked past them and out at the great gate, a pipe in his mouth and a plank on his shoulder. The sergeant on duty at the drawbridge was reading a letter as he passed and took no notice of him. It was then 5 o'clock in the morning.

Four times that day, the last time at 5 in the afternoon, did the governor, Demarie, send for the prince. Each time Dr. Conneau replied that the prisoner could not see anybody because he had taken medicine. When at last the governor lost patience and went himself to the prince's room and walked up to the bed on which the supposed invalid was lying he discovered that a very presentable dummy had taken the place of Louis Napoleon. The discovery was made too late. By that time the fugitive was over the Belgian frontier.—Paris Journal des Debates.

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## DEER AND BULLETS.

Serious and Ugly Wounds From Which the Animals Recover.

"If all deer that are wounded in the course of the hunting season and succeed in getting out of the way of the hunter should wander away and die the woods would contain many more dead deer than are taken away," said an old hunter. "But all of them do not wander off and die a loss to the hunter.

"Deer have great recuperative powers. It is no sign that a deer is doomed to go off and die because it is badly wounded. I have killed many a deer that gave evidence of having been so severely wounded that its having survived to take the range again seemed almost miraculous.

"I once shot and killed a buck that had a rifle bullet encysted near the skin of the left shoulder, but there was no wound on the outside of the skin to show that it had entered the deer there. Investigation showed a wound long healed, near the top of the right shoulder, unmistakably made by that rifle bullet, which must have passed clear through the deer to the left shoulder, where its speed was spent and it lodged just under the skin.

"Besides that severe wound that deer had been pretty well filled some time or other by buckshot, for I took out nine from one side of him, where they had broken several of his ribs. These two ugly wounds had been inflicted at different times, and in spite of them he was in splendid condition and I had to give him two shots from a Winchester before I stopped him."—New York Sun.

## BOGUS ANCESTORS.

A Paying Business in England That Thrives Upon Snobbery.

The most tragic form of snobbery in a country place is that which concerns itself with the tracing of a pedigree. In my travels I came upon a man who confessed that he had made thousands of pounds out of the conceit and snobishness of people living in country places, and especially people who happened to possess names of a high sounding character. His method of work was simple, and only the ultra snob could be taken in by it.

He would glance through a local directory and select a few names of the Fitz-Blank style. A short visit to the town would help him to determine the character of the person—a snob is easily distinguished, and he would return to his place and write that he had come into the possession of a portrait which he had every reason to believe was that of an ancestor of Mr. Fitz-Blank.

There would be a few quaint hieroglyphics on the back of the canvas showing that the original was a native of the town in which Mr. Fitz-Blank was residing. In nine cases out of ten that picture sold at a price which meant a profit of 100 per cent to the dealer after he had paid the little Italian artist, who turned out the pictures by the dozen. In many a country house today there is a fine old full-length portrait of an ancestor which was painted in a murky studio somewhere down Whitechapel way.—Margaret B. Lantyne in London Saturday Journal.

## High Quality Tea.

A verdict in favor of high quality tea as a harmless drink is given by the London Lancet. It is pointed out that when caffeine and tannin are in a state of combination the harmful astringent qualities of the tannin disappear and the bitter taste of free caffeine is not perceptible. Teas of high quality yield, as a rule, a simple infusion of caffeine tannate, not of caffeine or of tannin, and such teas must be regarded as the most desirable from a physiological point of view. Excessive infusion, it is stated, will spoil a good tea, but even a short infusion of a bad tea may be as objectionable as an excessive infusion of good tea. On physiological grounds, therefore, the consumer of high quality teas runs less risk of digestive disturbances provided the tea is made properly.

## Ancient Guidebooks.

Guidebooks for the use of pilgrims to Rome, known to exist in a rudimentary form since the time of Charlemagne, took a definite and characteristic shape in the twelfth century with the "Descriptio Planarie Totius Urbis" and with the "Graphia Aurea" of the thirteenth. The institution of the jubilee in the year 1300, calling to Rome hundreds of thousands of wayfarers, opened a new market for descriptive literature on the Holy City, and new editions "De Mirabilibus" were produced at least four times each century.—London Athenaeum.

## A Comparison.

"That was a tempestuous outburst of oratory our friend indulged in," said one statesman.

"Tempestuous" is the word," replied the other. "Whenever he makes a speech it makes me think of a cyclone that has somehow learned to articulate."—Washington Star.

## His Engaging Remark.

Mr. Dumbhead-Nelson was coming to call, but I told him you would be engaged this evening.

Miss Olemdade (rapturously).—Oh, William!—Princeton Tiger.

## Hard to Please.

Wigg-Bjones is pretty hard to please, isn't he? Wagg—Almost as hard to please as a college graduate looking for his first job.—Philadelphia Record.

There is hope for all who are softened and penitent. There is hope for all such.—Dickens.

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## Could This Happen to You?

The following is an excerpt of an article in a recent issue of the Newark Evening News:

WILL OF 99 YEARS AGO  
FIGURES IN LAND SUIT

Ambiguity in a clause in a will made ninety-nine years ago, devising a parcel of wild land in West Orange Township, was the basis of a suit to quit title that came on for final hearing before Vice-Chancellor Stevens to-day.

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